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Dulles Is Upheld On Polish Stand

By Drew Pearson

A good many days before the Polish revolt, Allen Dulles, head of Central Intelligence, the younger brother of the Secretary of State, predicted that what did happen would happen. He also predicted serious straining at the leash against Moscow in other satellite countries.

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Finally he urged the Eisenhower Administration to do something to encourage the satellite breakaway. He found Ike leaders and State Department strategists, however, much too preoccupied in the political campaign to do much serious Iron Curtain thinking.

Allen Dulles, the much less publicized member of the Dulles family, operates under a careful cloak of secrecy so that his mistakes are not known to the public, but he has made few mistakes (his backing of Col. Nasser was the worst), and has called the shots with remarkable accuracy.

In this case, however, it looks as if the elder Dulles brother's do-nothing policy re Poland was wiser than Allen's do-something policy.

Over CBS TV the other night, John Foster Dulles reported to the public that he was doing very little to encourage Polish revolutionists. Dulles said this almost apologetically as if fumbling to figure out what could be done. In the course of this fumbling he said: "There are balloons." He referred to the freedom balloons which have been floated regularly and repeatedly across the border into Czechoslovakia, Poland and Hungary.

Despite Dulle's groping, every diplomatic observer who has followed the European scene closely figures that the best thing the United States can do right now is to keep quiet, officially, and let the strong ferment inside Poland work itself out. For this Government to barge into the picture even with public statements might either drive restless Poles back toward Moscow, or give Moscow an excuse to barge into the picture.

The quick, resentful Polish reaction to Eisenhower's political statement, even congratulating the Poles showed the wisdom of the Elder Dulle's policy.

Balloons Across 'Curtain'

The idea of floating propaganda balloons across the Iron Curtain was first proposed by this writer in 1948. It met with no enthusiasm whatsoever in the State Department, though welcomed by such men as Gen. Omar Bradley, then chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

After two years of plugging the idea, however, I was given the green light by Edward Barrett, then Assistant Secretary of State, now dean of the Columbia School of Journalism. He specified, however, that I get a non-American committee to sign the freedom-friendship leaflets to the satellite people.

The first leaflets were signed by the CIO-AFL of Canada, the equivalent labor groups of Latin America, the Free Writers Association of Europe, and the General Federation of Women's Clubs, then headed by Mrs. Dorothy Houghton, now co-chairman of Citizens for Eisenhower.

After that initial lauching, techniques were improved so that balloons have gone to Poland, Hungary and Czechoslovakia regularly. In the past year, a small newspaper has crossed the Iron Curtain almost once a week, and a total of more than 200 million pamphlets has been dropped over the satellites since that first balloon was launched from a misty wheat field in Bavaria in August, 1951.

The State Department, meanwhile, has kept a hands-off policy—which is wise. Under Secretary Dulles, it has even been more than hands off. It has been negative. Last summer when the International Order of Eagles wanted to send Benson's surplus food by balloon to hungry satellite peoples, the State Department frowned and said no. There had been too many protests from Moscow.

Khrushchev Out??

You can write it down as almost certain that bubbling, vodka-drinking Nikita Khrushchev, the secretary of the Communist Party who tried to soften the tough policies of Joe Stalin, is on his way out.

A small clique inside the Kremlin has been gunning for him for some time. Now the Polish revolt gives them an excuse to oust him.

The group that has disapproved of Khrushchev's policies is headed by dour, American-hating ex-Foreign Minister Molotov, who believes in the Stalin school that toughness pays. Now he can say: "I told you so."

Molotov is too old to head up the Kremlin. The man who will probably fill Nikita's shoes is Anastas Mikoyan, who has played both the Molotov and the Khrushchev sides and can get along with both.

Note—Khrushchev has a son-in-law in Washington. He is First Secretary of the Soviet Embassy, whose job it was to negotiate with Pan American Airways [illegible] Russia. He has seemed rather friendly to the United States.